

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT L 00016 091036Z

13

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 PM-03 INR-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 L-01 EB-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 RSC-01

/048 W

----- 103282

R 090843Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4956

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL PORT LOUIS 0016

LIMDIS

CINCUSNAVEUR AND CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR SE UK OAU XO MARR MP

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES INDEPENDENCE AND BIOT

REF: NAIROBI 0152

1. I WOULD ASSUME EMBASSY NAIROBI IS QUITE RIGHT THAT QUESTION OF RESTORATION OF THREE FORMER SEYCHELLES ISLAND GROUPS DOES NOT DIRECTLY IMPINGE ON US INTERESTS IN PRESENT SITUATION.

2. I DOUBT THAT CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION IN INTERNATIONAL FORA WOULD PER SE ENCOURAGE MAURITIUS ACTUALLY TO SEEK RETURN OF DIEGO GARCIA -- NOT BECAUSE GOM IS PASSIVE ABOUT DIEGO, FAR FROM IT, BUT BECAUSE THERE IS NO RELIABLE EVIDENCE SO FAR THAT RAM-GOOLAM REALLY INTENDS TO SEEK RETURN OF DIEGO. MORE IMPORTANT HOWEVER IS FACT THAT RAMGOOLAM AND MOST MAURITIAN POLITICANS

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PAGE 02 PORT L 00016 091036Z

ARE OPPOSED TO OUR DIEGO EXPANSION AND ARE STRONGLY MOTIVATED

TO COLLABORATE WITH ANY AND ALL LIKE-MINDED INDIAN OCEAN COUNTRIES  
TO TRY TO FORECLOSE ANY UPGRADING OF FOREIGN MILITARY FACILITIES  
IN AREA AND ESPECIALLY ESTABLISHMENT OF ANY ADDITIONAL FOREIGN  
MILITARY BASES IN INDIAN OCEAN.

3. IT IS MY GUESS THAT RAMGOOLAM WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR  
CLOSE AND EVEN DOMINATING INFLUENCE IN SEYCHELLES WHEN IT BECOMES  
INDEPENDENT, PREFERS MANCHAM TO SPUP, BUT WOULD LIKE TO SEE MANCHAM  
ADOPT SPUP POSITION ON RESTORATION OF ALDABRA, DESROCHES AND  
FARQUHAR. I SURMISE RAMGOOLAM'S REASONS ARE AT LEAST TWOFOLD:  
(A) HE IS SUSPICIOUS THAT UK, IF IT HOLDS ON TO THOSE ISLANDS,  
MAY EVENTUALLY BE TEMPTED TO CONVERT ONE OR MORE INTO ANOTHER  
DIEGO, (B) HE WOULD PREFER TO SEE AN INDEPENDENT SEYCHELLES'  
GEOGRAPHIC REACH FOCUSED MORE WESTWARD THAN SOUTHWARD, BECAUSE  
HE, FOR ECONOMIC REASONS, IS ANXIOUS TO PUSH HIS ARCHIPELAGIC  
CONCEPT AS FAR NORTH AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY WHEN HOPES HERE  
ARE RAPIDLY RISING THAT TEXACO WILL MAKE MAJOR OIL STRIKE IN  
BOTH NAZARETH AND SAYA DE MALHA BANKS. THUS IT IS NOT TOO SURPRISING  
THAT RAMGOOLAM NOT LONG AGO SAID TO ME "IF YOU CAN PERSUADE THE  
BRITISH TO GIVE ALDABRA, DESROCHES AND FARQUHAR TO THE SEYCHELLES,  
I WILL KISS YOUR FEET".

MANHARD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, MILITARY BASES, DIEGO GARCIA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PORTL00016  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750008-1008  
**From:** PORT LOUIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750166/aaaacfmf.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 75 NAIROBI 0152  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SEYCHELLES INDEPENDENCE AND BIOT  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, MARR, SE, UK, XO, MP, OAU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006